

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus comprising:
first and second connectors, each of said connectors being adapted for connection to a computer;
a communications router operatively situated between the connectors;
a nonvolatile memory operatively situated between the connectors, said memory storing a driver for the communications router and a software load to be installed on a computer to which either the first connector or the second connector is connected.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the software load comprises a user interface for guiding a user to transfer files from a computer to which the first connector is connected to another computer to which the second connector is connected.
3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the software load comprises a setup program for installing the user interface.
4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the software load comprises a game.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the connectors comprise universal serial bus (USB) connectors.
6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the driver for the communications router causes the communications router to appear as a USB network connection to a computer to which either the first connector or the second connector is connected.
7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the nonvolatile memory appears as an autorun device to a computer to which either the first connector or the second connector is connected.
8. A method of performing a computer setup comprising:
 - operatively connecting a communications router and a nonvolatile memory between two computers;
 - initiating an autorun function by at least one of the computers;
 - loading a driver for the communications router to at least one of the computers in response to the autorun function, said driver residing in the nonvolatile memory;
 - installing setup software to at least one of the computers via the communications router, said setup software also residing in the nonvolatile memory.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein initiating the autorun function includes permitting the nonvolatile memory to be detected as a new hardware device.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the setup software comprises a user interface for guiding a user to transfer files between the two computers.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the setup software comprises an installer for installing the user interface.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the user interface comprises a migration utility for guiding the user to migrate files from one of the computers to the other one of the computers via the communications router.

13. The method of claim 8, further comprising operatively situating the nonvolatile memory and the communications router between a pair of universal serial bus (USB) connectors, and wherein operatively connecting the nonvolatile memory and the communications router includes connecting the USB connectors to corresponding USB ports on the computers.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein the driver for the communications router causes the communications router to appear as a USB network connection to the computers.

15. The method of claim 8, wherein initiating the autorun function comprises showing the nonvolatile memory as a CD-ROM device to the computers.

16. The method of claim 8, further comprising communicating between the computers via the communications router.

17. The method of claim 8, wherein initiating the autorun function and loading the driver is performed using plug and play technology.

18. The method of claim 8, further comprising timing out after a predetermined period of time if a connection to only one of the computers is detected.

19. One or more computer-readable media have computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 8.

20. One or more computer-readable media comprising:
a driver for a communications router;
a user interface for guiding a user to transfer files from one computer to another computer via the communications router; and
a setup program for automatically installing the user interface.

21. The computer-readable media of claim 20, wherein the driver for the communications router causes the communications router to appear as a universal serial bus (USB) network connection to a computer.

22. The computer-readable media of claim 20, wherein the setup program resides on a nonvolatile memory and further comprising autorun information for identifying the nonvolatile memory as a CD-ROM device for automatically launching the setup program.

23. The computer-readable media of claim 20, wherein the user interface comprises a migration utility for guiding the user through a file migration.